

PATENT CLAIMS

1. Abrasive or cutting instrument with a rotating blade having an abrasive or cutting region at its distal end, which is connected via a tube to the drive unit disposed in the proximal region of the instrument, with a suction passage being provided in said tube,
characterised in that an additional irrigation passage is provided through which an irrigation liquid is passed to the distal end for cleaning the blade and for assistance in exhausting the severed or abraded tissue particles.

2. Instrument according to Claim 1,
characterised in that said suction passage is centrally arranged.

3. Instrument according to Claim 1 or 2,
characterised in that a handpiece is provided in which said drive unit is accommodated.

4. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 3,
characterised in that a rotating inner blade and a stationary outer blade are provided.

5. Instrument according to Claim 4,
characterised in that the gap between said inner blade and said outer blade constitutes the irrigation passage.

6. Instrument according to Claim 4,
characterised in that said irrigation passage is disposed in the instruments in a non-symmetrical arrangement.

7. Instrument according to Claim 6,
characterised in that said irrigation passage is disposed on said outer blade.

8. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 4,
characterised in that a hollow shaft is provided into which said blade and the tube attached thereto are inserted so as to form said irrigation passage between said tube and said shaft.

9. ⁶ Instrument according to Claim 8,
characterised in that said irrigation passage surrounds said blade and said tube in a coaxial relationship.

10. Instrument according to Claim 8 or 9,
characterised in that said hollow shaft is detachable fastened on said handpiece.

11. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 10,
characterised in that the irrigation liquid passed through said irrigation passage is exhausted through said suction passage without entering the body cavity into which the instrument is introduced.

12. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 11,
characterised in that said suction passage is flared from the distal towards the proximal end.

13. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 12,
characterised in that the abrasive or cutting region is provided laterally on said blade, and
that the face of said hollow shaft extends obliquely along the direction of the longitudinal axis.

14. Instrument according to Claim 13,
characterised in that the discharge opening for the irrigation liquid is so designed that at least the bulk volume of the irrigation liquid is discharged in the region which does not serve for abrasion or cutting.

15. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 14,
characterised in that the proximally provided connectors for said suction and irrigation passages are coaxially designed.

16. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 14,
characterised in that the proximally provided connectors for said suction and irrigation passages are configured to be adjacent to each other.

17. Instrument according to any of the Claims 1 to 14,
characterised in that the proximally provided fitting for said irrigation passage extends at an angle of 90° relative to the longitudinal instrument axis.

18. Instrument according to Claim 17,
characterised in that the connector for said irrigation passage is provided ahead of the handpiece, seen in a direction towards the proximal end, so that the outer blade will be rotatable relative to the handpiece.

19

17